on village basis but on hexagonal basis. The country has been divided in hexagons of 5 Kms sides each. Each hexagon covers an area of about 65 sq. Kms and telephone facility is provided on fully subsidised basis at the principal village in each hexagon. In U.P. 2386 hexagons have been provided with telecom facilities as on 31-3-1987. The number of villages covered will be much more than this number.

(b) Policy to provide telecom facility in all villages by 2000 A.D. is under consideration.

Delhi's Power Position

1212. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi's power supply has been and will continue to be erratic due to lacunae, inadequate planning and its implementation as reported in the 'Times of India' of 9th February, 1988; and

(b) whether any short term and long term measures are underway to ensure that there are no serious breakdowns which decrease production, productivity and work output in offices/factories and homes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking proposes to meet the power demand from its own generation and its share from the Central power stations. Long-term measures being taken to meet the growing demand for power in Delhi include setting up of 840 MW capacity at National Capital Power Project at Dadri and 135 MW capacity at the Rajghat power station, improving the performance of Indraprastha and Badarpur stations and sterngthening the transmission and distribution system. In addition, Delhi will also receive its share of power from the Central power stations, currently under implementation in the Northern Region.

Shortfall in Hydel Power Generation

1213. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a shortfall in hydel power is anticipated as reported in the 'Times of India' of 11th February, 1988 and if so, what are the reasons therefor and corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken;

(b) whether a part of the problem is due to large scale siltation due to de-forestation and failure or rains; and

(c) whether stress will be laid on small hydroelectric projects and wind power generation and the potential will be fully utilized in the shortest possible time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) A shortfall of about 9 billion units is anticipated in hydro generation during the current year mainly due to weak monsoon and delayed commissioning of some hydroelectric units during the year. A contingency plan has been formulated and implemented to augment thermal generation which is expected to exceed the target in the current year by more than 5 billion units. The measures being taken to increase the availability of power also include expediting commissioning of new capacity, implementation of short-gestation projects, improving the per-